

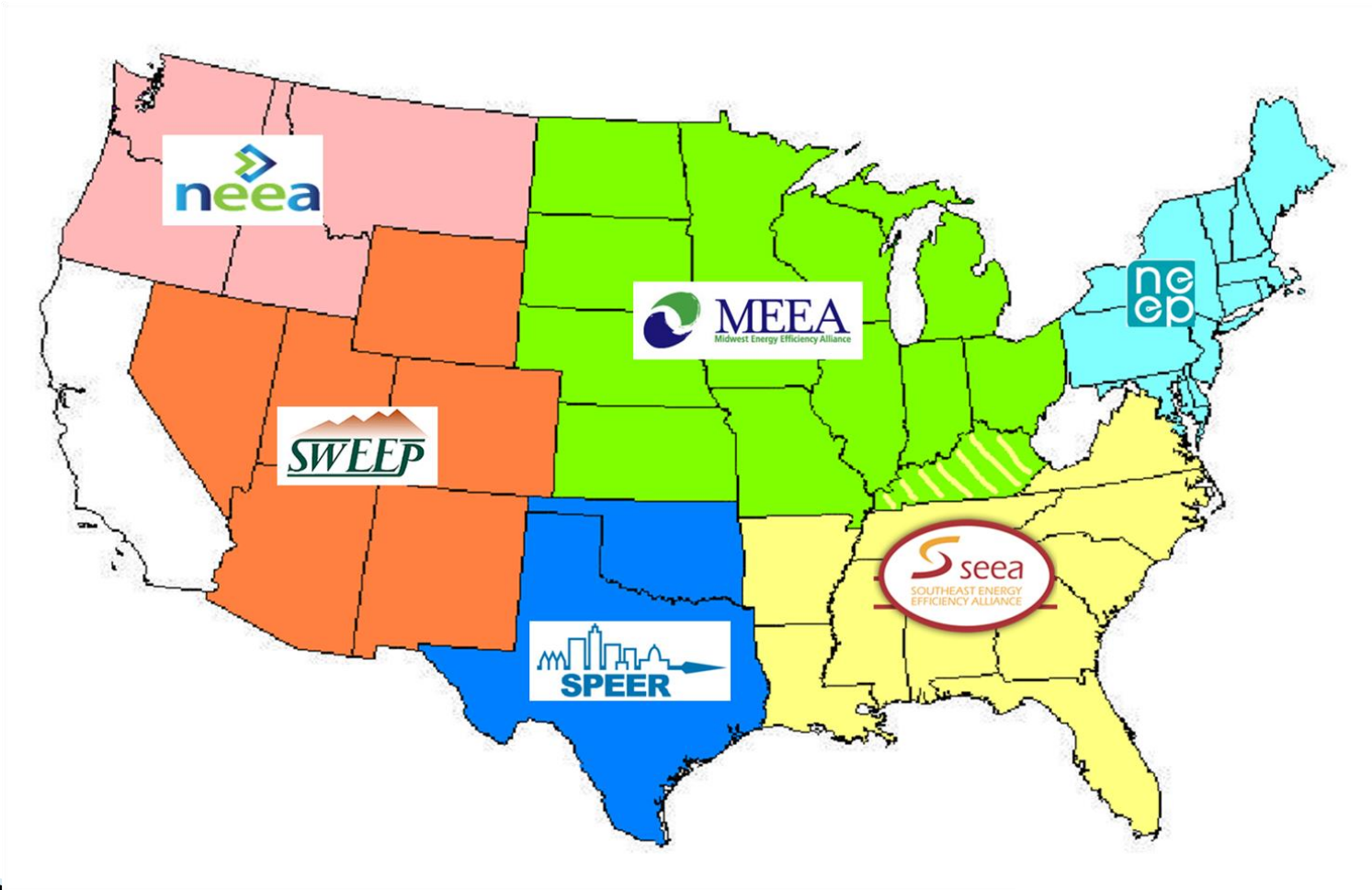


SPEER Energy Code Ambassador Program

John Umphress
Austin Energy Green Building
SPEER ECAP



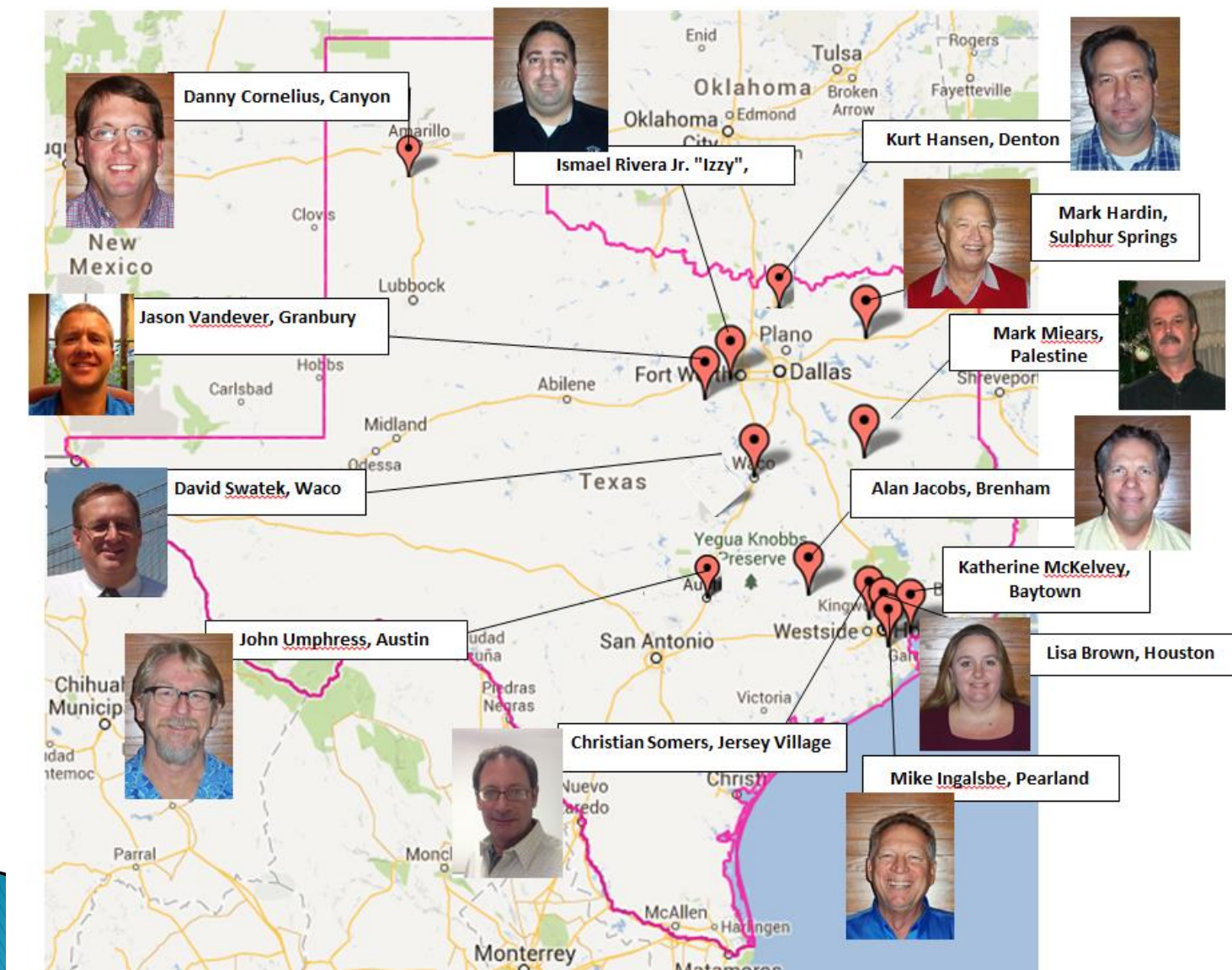
SPEER – South-central Partnership for Energy Efficiency as a Resource



SPEER'S ECAP Program

- ▶ **SPEER identified big differences in energy code adoption, enforcement across the region**
- ▶ **Worked with BCAP & ICC to bring ECAP to Texas & Oklahoma**
- ▶ **First ambassador training in December 2013**
- ▶ **Second class in December 2014**

Original Texas Ambassadors...





SPEER Ambassadors

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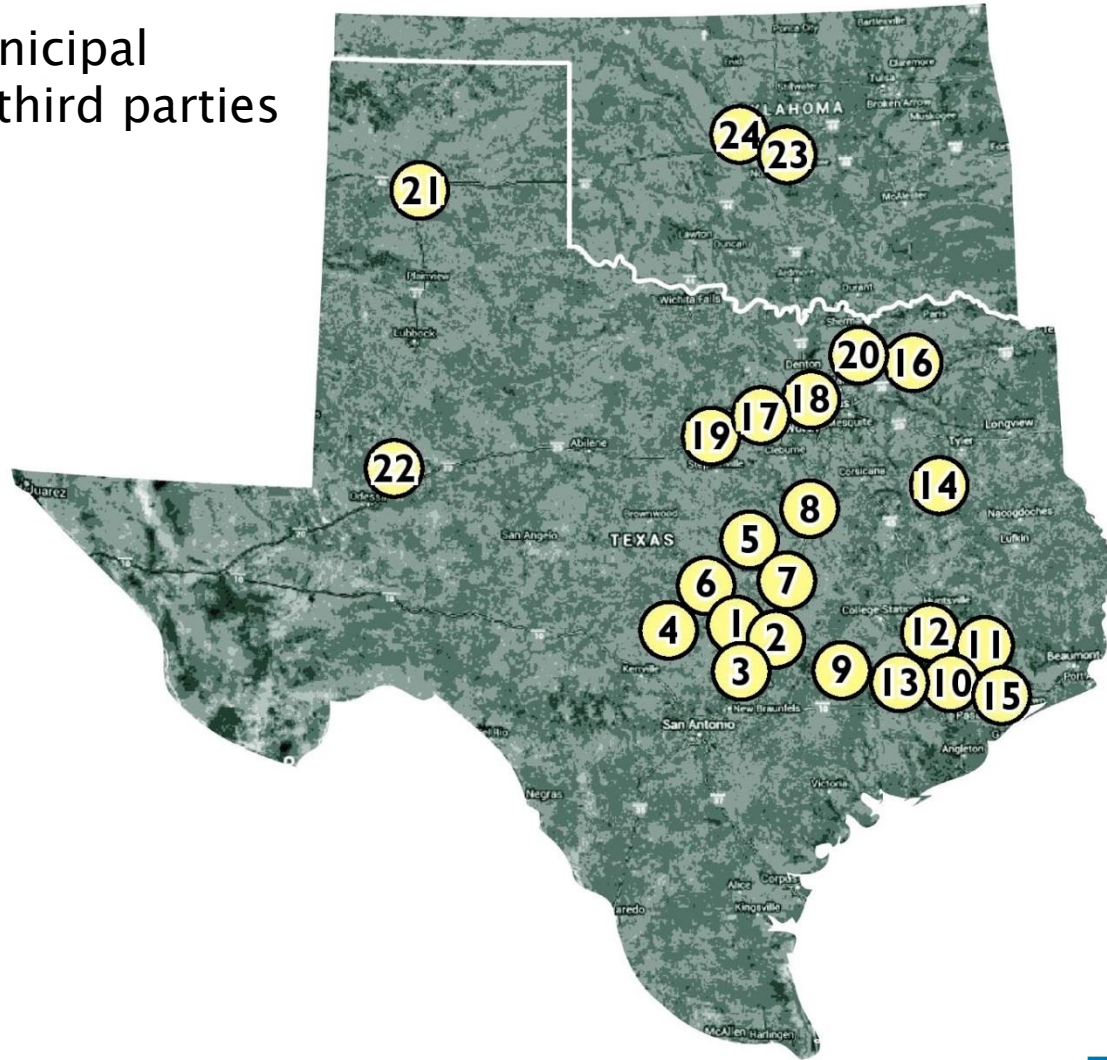


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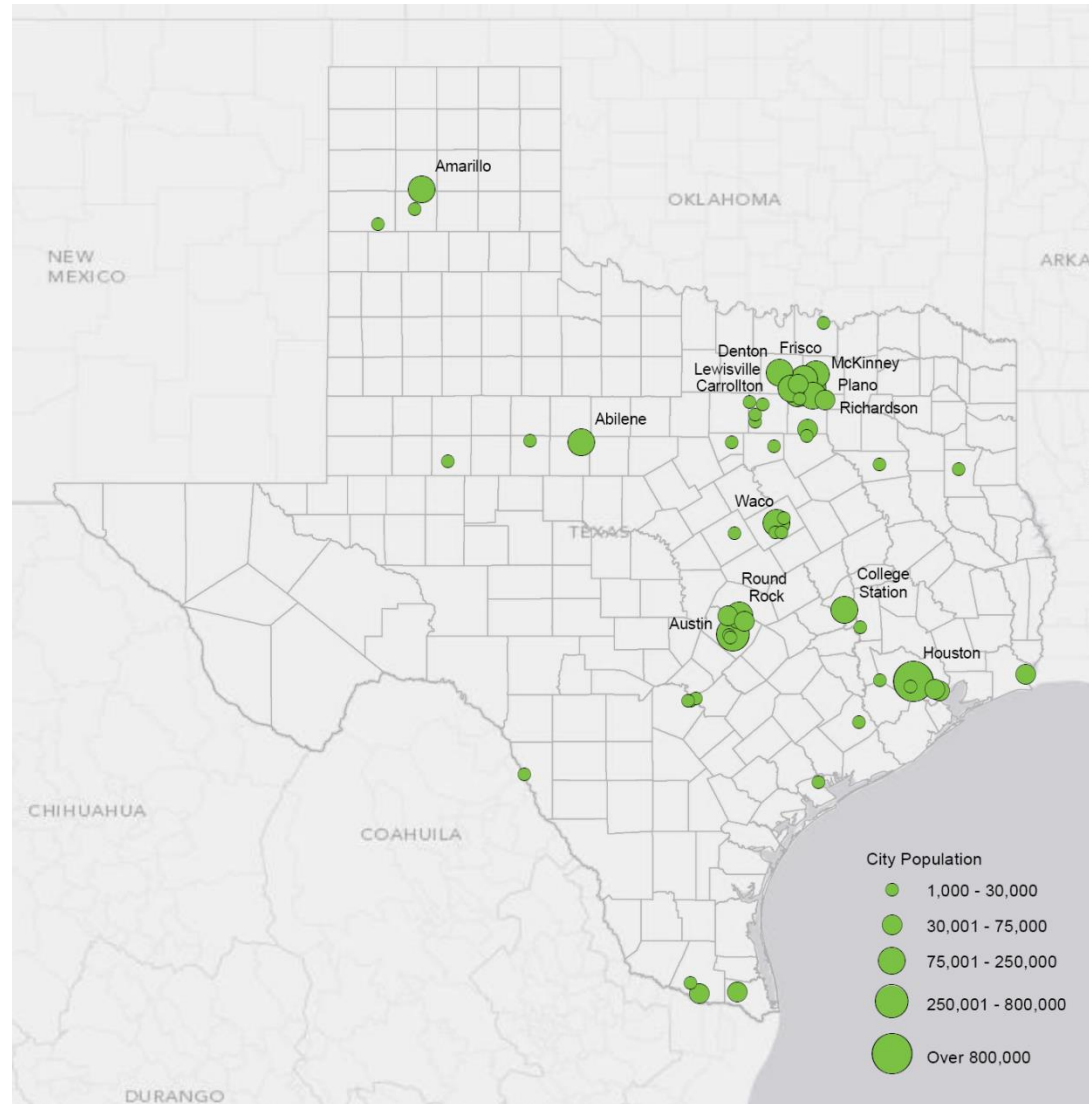
SPEER Ambassadors

Includes both municipal
Officials and ICC third parties



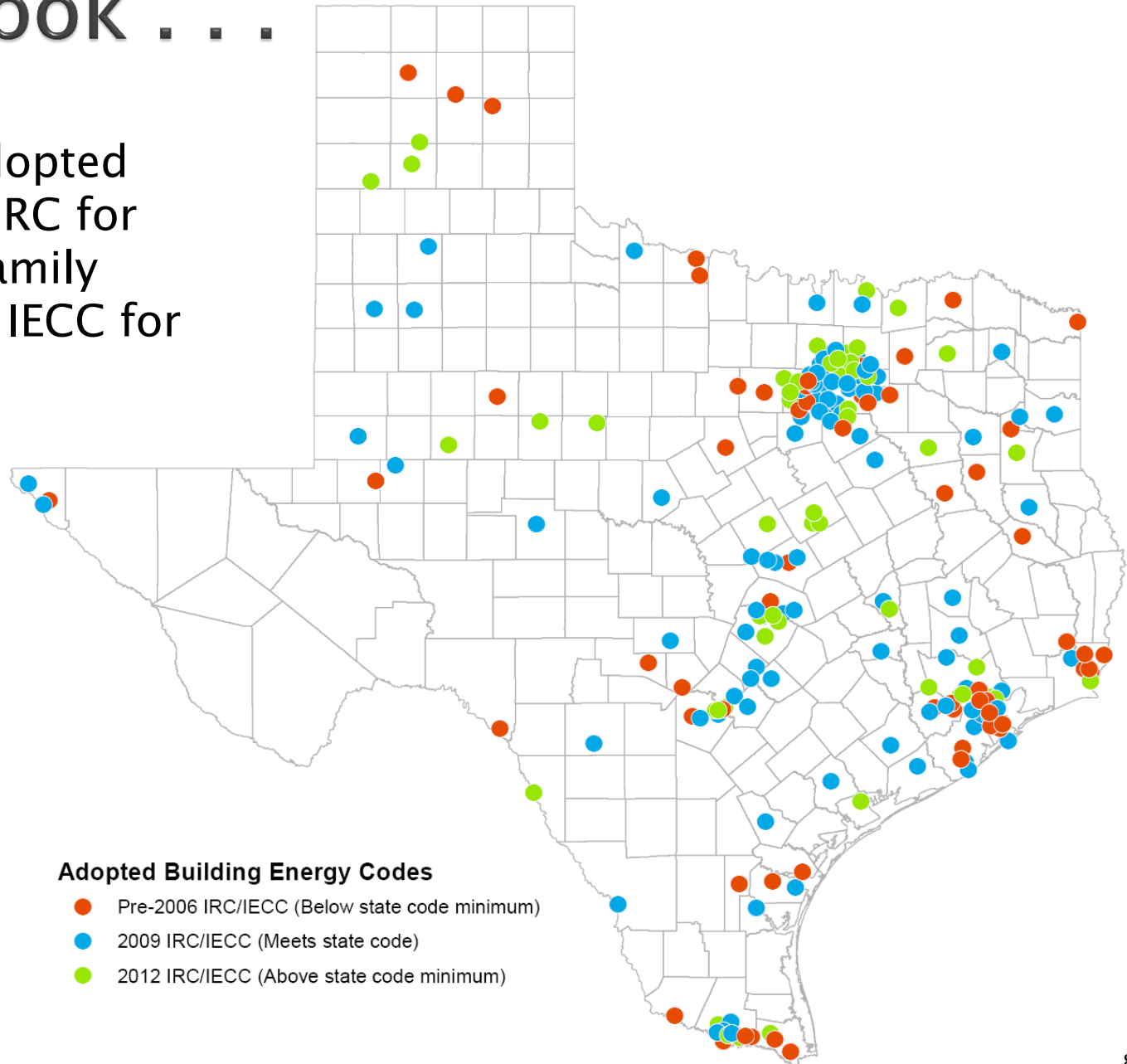
2012 IECC Adoption – Texas

A handful of cities
have adopted
2015 IECC



Another look . . .

The state has adopted
Ch. 11 of 2009 IRC for
one- and two-family
dwellings, 2009 IECC for
everything else



Adopted Building Energy Codes

- Pre-2006 IRC/IECC (Below state code minimum)
- 2009 IRC/IECC (Meets state code)
- 2012 IRC/IECC (Above state code minimum)

Why the ambassador program is important

- ▶ Texas had 7 of the 15 fastest growing cities in the U.S. last year
- ▶ Texas had 16% of housing starts and twice the number of the next highest state (Florida)
- ▶ Because enforcement is uncertain in rural areas, compliance in municipalities is even more critical

Energy Code Certification

- ▶ ICC currently reports 891 persons in Texas with some energy certification, including Raters or qualified 3rd party inspectors.
 - 798 Residential Inspectors/Plans Examiners
 - 385 Commercial Inspectors
 - 184 Commercial Plans Examiners
 - 7 Energy Code Specialists

That's in a state with 27 million residents!

Residential Impediments to Enforcement:

1. None
2. Short on time or staff
3. Need for education or training
4. Limited funding
5. No or incomplete plans
6. Need for equipment
7. Lack of building owner cooperation
8. Building access
9. Lack of Code books for staff
10. Other

Source: SPEER survey

Areas of Residential Plan or Inspection Non-compliance:

1. Envelope sealing (infiltration)
2. Envelope insulation installation
3. Fenestration
4. Lighting fixtures
5. Duct sealing
6. Piping insulation
7. Envelope insulation levels
8. Duct insulation
9. HVAC design
10. Other

Source: SPEER survey

Ambassadors' role

- ▶ Respond to questions from peers
- ▶ Support adoption of new energy codes
- ▶ Testify at code hearings
- ▶ Present at conferences
- ▶ Assist neighboring jurisdictions
- ▶ Suggest improvement, innovation in code compliance

Support provided by SPEER

- ▶ **Training and materials**
 - Code books
 - Compliance checklist
 - Guidance materials
- ▶ **Monthly webinars/conference calls**
- ▶ **Staff support**
- ▶ **Data collection and dissemination**

Looking ahead

- ▶ **Broaden adoption & compliance to the degree possible**
- ▶ **Develop materials and compliance techniques that are applicable across the Texas and Oklahoma**
- ▶ **Recruit additional ambassadors – fill in the gaps**
- ▶ **Convert code compliance into standard practice**

Ultimate goals

- ▶ Encourage adoption of most current code
- ▶ Achieve more consistent compliance with energy codes
- ▶ Foster a higher level of code literacy amongst code officials, inspectors, reviews, builders
- ▶ Reduce building energy use
- ▶ Reduce emissions associated with energy use
- ▶ Save building owners, occupants money